

their dinner They passed up a turnpike and through three or four chambers, Mr Alexander e\er locLng behind him e\ery door as he passed, and so into a little stud\ where he saw stand- ing, with a \ery abased countenance, not a bondman but a free- man with a dagger at his girdle Mr Alexander locked the study door behind him, and at that instant changing his countenance, putting his hat on his head and drawing the dagger from the man's girdle, he held the point of it at the King's breast, avowing now that the King behoved to be in his will and used as he list, swearing many bloody oaths that if the King cried out one word or opened a window to look out, the dagger shoald straitway go to his heart, affirming also he was sure that now the King's conscience was burthened for murdering his father

In this pass the King began then to dilate to Mr Alexander how horrible a thing it was for him to meddle with the King's innocent blood, assuring him it would not be left unrevenged Affirming also that he had no burthen in his father's execution, being at that time a minor of age and guided by a faction which overruled both him and the rest of the country The King also promised, on the word of a Prince, that if he would spare his life and suffer him to go out again, he would never reveal to any flesh living, what was betwixt them at that time, nor never suffer him to incur anj harm or punishment for the same

At the King's persuasive language, Mr Alexander appeared to be somewhat amazed, and uncovering his head again swore and protested that the King's life should be safe, if he would behave himself quietly He said, moreover, that he would bring in the Earl, his brother , but to what purpose he would

not discover With that he bade the other man
 guard the King
 till his return and passed forth, locking the door
 after him The
 King then demanded of the man whether he was
 appointed to
 be his murderer , who answered with a trembling
 and aston-
 ished voice and behaviour that as the Lord
 should judge him
 he was never made acquainted with that
 purpose , and more-
 over all the time that Mr Alexander was menacing
 his Majesty,
 he was ever trembling, requesting him for God's
 sake not to
 meddle with the King or do him any harm
 Thereupon,
 because before his going out Mr Alexander had
 made the King
 swear that he should not cry nor open any
 window, the King